

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICATION NO.

10/026,301

CONFIRMATION N

APPLICANT

: De Billot *et al.*

FILED:

December 19, 2001

TC/A.U.

1616

EXAMINER

Alton N. Pryor

DOCKET NO.

17396/09015

CUSTOMER NO.

n/a

RESPONSE AND AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.111

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This paper is filed in response to the Office Action of July 8, 2003, and is intended to address each and every issue that was raised in that Action. It is believed to be timely with respect to the three-month period that was set for response in that Action. It is respectfully requested that the claims be amended as described below and that the amended claims be re-examined in view of the amendments and the remarks/arguments that are presented below and be found to be allowable.

There are no Amendments to the Specification.

Amendments to the claims begin on page 2 of this paper.

There are no Amendments to the Drawings.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 37 of this paper.